

INFORMATION REPORT

211648

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Food Prospects for the Russian Zone

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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25X1X

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1. Source regards the present situation and outlook as very unfavorable. The following amounts of food supplies were to last from early May until harvest time:

	<u>Branden- burg</u> <u>tons</u>	<u>Thuringia</u> <u>tons</u>	<u>Saxony</u> <u>(State)</u> <u>tons</u>	<u>*Saxony- Anhalt</u> <u>tons</u>	<u>Mecklenburg</u> <u>tons</u>
Potatoes	45,000	20,000	85,000	25,000	180,000
Grain	18,000	10,000	15,000	8,000	65,000
Fats (without synthetic fats)	1,200	800	2,000	600	1,300
Meat (livestock ready to be slaughtered)	25,000	16,000	20,000	8,000	45,000

* The figures quoted for Saxony-Anhalt were compiled after deducting the quantities requisitioned by the Soviet Army in March. These quantities were as follows:

Grain	11,500 tons	Sugar	46,000 tons
Meat	3,000 "	Potatoes	50,000 "
Fats	4,000 "	Eggs	18,000,000 "

2. According to source's estimate, not more than seventy per cent of the required food would be delivered to the population between May and harvest time. Even in this case, certain allotted items would have to be replaced by substitutes, such as sauerkraut for potatoes or sugar for fats.

3. The following figures show original ration quotas and actual distribution of food up to the fourth quarter of 1947 and during the first quarter of 1948:

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() Comment: Group 1 represents "very heavy laborers" (Schwerstarbeiter); group 2 - "heavy laborers"; group 3 - workers of any profession not requiring "heavy" work; group 4 - the rest of the population. Group 5 - children - is not mentioned, and it is to be assumed that the problems facing this group are equal to those of group 4.7)

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Next Page

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

211648

<u>Group</u>	<u>Allotted</u>	<u>Actual Distribution</u>				
	<u>Quota</u>	<u>Branden-</u>	<u>Thuringia</u>	<u>Saxony</u>	<u>Saxony-</u>	<u>Mecklenburg</u>
	<u>Calories</u>	<u>burg</u>		<u>(State)</u>	<u>Anhalt</u>	
		<u>Calories</u>	<u>Calories</u>	<u>Calories</u>	<u>Calories</u>	<u>Calories</u>

Up to 4th quarter 1947

1	2,800	2,400	2,300	2,500	2,400	2,600
2	2,400	2,200	2,000	2,300	2,200	2,300
3	1,900	1,800	1,600	1,700	1,650	1,900
4	1,550	1,350	1,200	1,300	1,250	1,450

First quarter 1948

1	2,800	2,400	2,200	2,300	2,300	2,500
2	2,400	2,000	2,000	2,200	2,100	2,200
3	1,900	1,700	1,500	1,600	1,500	1,700
4	1,550	1,350	1,200	1,250	1,200	1,400

4. As of May, the SMA had rejected any systematic planning for food imports. Documentary support was demanded for any request of this nature.

5. Prospects for this year's harvest: Should the requisitioned quantities of potatoes, oil seeds, grain, and fertilizer be released, it will be possible to plant on time, since a large number of workers is available on the farms. Compared with the normal prewar figures in the same area, available stocks of seeds will allow for the planting of

65% of potatoes
55% of grain (for bread)
70% of grain (for fodder)
45% of oil seeds
70% of fodder
90% of vegetables

6. The number of agricultural machines would be sufficient for the harvest. However, twenty per cent of them cannot be used as they are in definite need of repair. But if the weather is favorable enough during harvest to allow for an extended harvest time, this lack of machinery will not have any disturbing effects.

7. Black market prices in the Soviet Zone. These prices differ in the various states and depend on available food supplies. The following list has been compiled on the basis of private observation:

	<u>Branden-</u>	<u>Saxony</u>	<u>Saxony-</u>	<u>Thuringia</u>	<u>Mecklenburg</u>
	<u>burg</u>		<u>Anhalt</u>		
	<u>RM</u>	<u>RM</u>	<u>RM</u>	<u>RM</u>	<u>RM</u>
Potatoes (50 kg.)	200	220	220	250	150
Rye " "	800	900	950	1,100	750
Wheat " "	1,200	1,300	1,400	1,500	1,000
Barley " "	700	800	950	1,000	650
Oats " "	1,000	1,100	1,200	1,100	900
Meat (1 Kg.)	150	120	130	180	90
Fats (animal)(1 kg)	220	240	250	300	200
Oil (from plants)(1kg)	240	260	250	—	200
Bread (3 Lbs.)	30	40	45	30	20-25

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